

# 1 Interview Summaries

## 1.1 FEMA

Interview Type	Telephone, Federal
Interview Location	
Interview Date	December 13, 2001
Summary Date	December 18, 2001
Interviewer	CDM / Michelle Thaler ( <a href="mailto:thalerma@cdm.com">thalerma@cdm.com</a> )
Interviewed:	Lauren McLane 617-223-9575 Sandra Spinks, 617-223-4546, EMPG Administrator
Staff Size (approx)	
Budget (approx)	
URL:	<a href="http://www.fema.gov/">http://www.fema.gov/</a>

### 1.1.1 Overview

FEMA uses GIS data in planning and disaster response. FEMA does not generate much GIS data and currently there is no formal system in place to exchange GIS data with state and other agencies. FEMA's official GIS software is MapInfo. However, FEMA staff do have a copy of ArcView software.

The FEMA office was not aware of the presence of the OGIS web site. The FEMA regional office downloads town boundary data for all six New England states from MassGIS. This data is in StatePlane Meters, NAD 83.

### 1.1.2 GIS Initiatives

#### 1.1.2.1 Data used from Maine OGIS and other state departments

##### Format

- None

##### Exchange Methods

- none

##### Data Layers

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##### Issues

- FEMA staff download Maine town boundaries from MassGIS; this data is in Stateplane Meters NAD 83
- Data for all 6 New England states is generally downloaded from MassGIS and not from the other states' GIS web sites.

- HASUS is a risk assessment tool created by FEMA to manage earthquake risk. This tool is currently being expanded to include flood and wind risk assessment. The tool is a free download from the FEMA site and comes in either MapInfo or ArcView format. The tool comes pre-loaded with some data sets, including schools, hospitals and airports.

#### **1.1.2.2 Data given to Maine**

#### **1.1.3 Other Relevant Issues**

- EMPG – Emergency Management Planning Grant – is the only grant given by FEMA to states. It is a matched grant. All states are eligible to apply up to a certain amount and the application may be amended anytime during the year. This grant may be used for activities as well as positions. Sandra Spinks administers the grant. The standard 5 part federal grant application (available from the Office of Management and Budget website) is required. This grant is to be used towards emergency management planning activities.
- Project Impact is a pre-disaster mitigation program that FEMA administers. It is a community specific grant focused on local programs. Saco, Maine is currently administering data and planning enhancements under this project.
- The Floodplain Management Grant is another FEMA grant that communities may apply for. The grant is very specific as to how funds may be used.
- Department of Justice also has a terrorism preparedness grant available. This grant may be used to purchase hardware and software.